

Library

LEWES BOROUGH COUNCIL  
A N N U A L   R E P O R T  
of the  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
for the  
YEAR ENDED - 31st DECEMBER, 1959.

Public Health Department,  
Lewes House,  
School Hill,  
LEWES, Sussex.



Public Health Department,  
Lewes House,  
LEWES.

March, 1960.

To the Mayor, the Chairman of the Health Committee, the Aldermen and Members  
of the Lewes Borough Council.

Mr. Mayor, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report on the health of the community  
and on the sanitary circumstances of the Borough for 1959.

The estimated population of Lewes for the year 1959 was 13,620. This is the  
highest figure so far recorded. In 1949 the figure was 12,950 and in 1954 it was  
13,180.

In 1959 the state of public health in Lewes was very satisfactory. There was  
a low death rate. The number of births exceeded the number of deaths. There was  
no maternal mortality. The infantile mortality rate was just over half that of  
England and Wales as a whole for the same year. There were no deaths of notified  
cases of infectious disease.

The adjusted death rate for Lewes for 1959 was 9.48 per 1,000 population  
compared with 11.6 for England and Wales. The adjusted birth rate for the Borough  
was 13.84 per 1,000 population. This is lower than the figure for England and Wales  
which was 16.5 per 1,000 population.

During the past fifteen years there was only one maternal death of a Lewes  
resident. In 1959 the infantile mortality was 11.56 per 1,000 live births. This  
compares very favourably with 22.0 for England and Wales.

Altogether there were 667 cases of infectious diseases notified in Lewes in  
1959. Of these there were 649 cases of measles; 7 of pneumonia; 4 of whooping  
cough, 3 of scarlet fever, 2 of puerperal pyrexia and one each of dysentery and  
food poisoning.

During 1959 nineteen cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified. No death  
occurred due to pulmonary tuberculosis. There were no new cases and no deaths due  
to non-pulmonary tuberculosis.

Concerning the sanitary circumstances in the Borough the water supplied by  
Brighton Corporation was constant, of good quality and sufficient for the needs of  
the community.

A great number of visits and inspections were made by the Public Health  
Inspector.

All the milk sold in the Borough is tuberculin tested, pasteurised or  
sterilised. During 1959 twenty-nine samples were submitted for bacteriological  
examinations and found to be satisfactory.

In conclusion, I want to thank you for your help and encouragement during  
the year. My thanks are also due to Mr. Price for his valuable assistance and  
to other officials of the Council for their courtesy and co-operation.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

G.M. DAVIDSON LOBBAN,

M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., F.R.S.I., etc.

Medical Officer of Health



## SECTION I

### Statistics of the Lewes Area, 1959

|                                                |            |
|------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Area (in acres) .....                          | 1,981      |
| Population (estimated) .....                   | 13,620     |
| Rateable Value (31st December, 1959) .....     | £243,115   |
| Sum represented by Penny Rate (March 1959) ... | £921.17.2. |

### Extracts from Vital Statistics

| <u>Live Births</u>                                       | <u>Male</u> | <u>Female</u> | <u>Total</u> | <u>Rate per 1,000<br/>population</u>            |
|----------------------------------------------------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| Legitimate                                               | 80          | 81            | 161          |                                                 |
| Illegitimate                                             | 6           | 6             | <u>12</u>    |                                                 |
|                                                          |             |               | 173          | 12.70                                           |
| Deaths                                                   | 56          | 86            | 142          | 10.42                                           |
|                                                          |             |               |              | <u>Rate per 1,000<br/>Live and Still Births</u> |
| Maternal Mortality                                       | -           | -             | -            | Nil                                             |
|                                                          |             |               |              | <u>Rate per 1,000<br/>Live Births</u>           |
| Infantile Mortality<br>(Deaths under one<br>year of age) | -           | 2             | 2            | 11.56                                           |

### POPULATION

| <u>Year</u> | <u>Population</u> | <u>Births</u> | <u>Deaths</u> | <u>Birth Rate</u> | <u>Death Rate</u> |
|-------------|-------------------|---------------|---------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1950        | 12,700            | 170           | 175           | 13.39             | 13.78             |
| 1951        | 12,940            | 184           | 161           | 14.22             | 12.44             |
| 1952        | 13,030            | 179           | 156           | 13.74             | 11.97             |
| 1953        | 13,120            | 188           | 145           | 14.33             | 11.05             |
| 1954        | 13,180            | 189           | 134           | 14.34             | 10.17             |
| 1955        | 13,240            | 165           | 149           | 12.46             | 11.25             |
| 1956        | 13,270            | 172           | 151           | 12.96             | 11.38             |
| 1957        | 13,290            | 172           | 143           | 12.94             | 10.76             |
| 1958        | 13,510            | 195           | 179           | 14.43             | 13.25             |
| 1959        | 13,620            | 173           | 142           | 12.70             | 10.42             |

The population figure has shown an increase of 110 over the figure of 13,510 for 1958. This figure is higher than the average increase for the preceding eight years, which was 101.

#### Maternal Mortality

During 1959 no woman from the Borough of Lewes died in, or in consequence of, childbirth. Only one maternal death of a Lewes resident has occurred in the past fifteen years, during which period 2,948 births took place. This gives a death rate for the fifteen year period of 0.34 per 1,000 births.

#### Infantile Mortality

During the year 1959 only two infants under one year of age died in Lewes. This represented an infantile mortality rate of 11.56 per 1,000 live births. The rate for the same period for England and Wales was 22.0.

### Birth Rate

The crude birth rate for the year under review was 12.70 per 1,000 population. This is a reduction of 1.73 per 1,000 on the rate for 1958, but is only 0.24 less than that in respect of 1957.

An area comparability factor of 1.09 is applicable to the Birth Rate in the Borough. This factor is supplied by the Registrar-General in order that a fair comparison may be made between the local birth rates of different districts. In this case its application gives an adjusted birth rate of 13.84 which is lower than the rate of 16.5 recorded in respect of England and Wales for 1959.

### Death Rate

The crude death rate for Lewes for the year 1959 was 10.42 per 1,000 population. This is considerably lower than the figure of 13.25 recorded last year and is also lower than the recorded death rate for England and Wales in respect of 1959, which was 11.6.

An area comparability factor of 0.91 is applicable to the death rate of 10.42 per 1,000 population and this gives an adjusted figure of 9.48 per 1,000, which is considerably lower than the rate for England and Wales.

The average age at death was 69.2 years, which compares favourably with the expectation of life from birth throughout England and Wales.

The highest age at death was ..... 99 years

The lowest age at death was ..... 2 months

The average age at death was ..... 69.2 years

### CAUSES OF DEATH

|                                                                   | <u>Male</u> | <u>Female</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| Heart Disease                                                     | 18          | 28            | 46           |
| Cancer                                                            | 11          | 19            | 30           |
| Vascular lesions of nervous system                                | 5           | 12            | 17           |
| Circulatory disease other than mentioned elsewhere                | 4           | 7             | 11           |
| Pneumonia                                                         | 4           | 1             | 5            |
| Bronchitis                                                        | 2           | 1             | 3            |
| Influenza                                                         | -           | 3             | 3            |
| Ulcer of stomach and duodenum                                     | 2           | 1             | 3            |
| Leukaemia, aleukaemia                                             | -           | 2             | 2            |
| Infective and parasitic diseases other than mentioned elsewhere   | 1           | 1             | 2            |
| Congenital malformations                                          | -           | 2             | 2            |
| Diseases of the respiratory system other than mentioned elsewhere | 1           | 1             | 2            |
| Diabetes                                                          | 1           | -             | 1            |
| Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea                                | -           | 1             | 1            |
| Nephritis and nephrosis                                           | -           | 1             | 1            |
| Hyperplasia of prostate                                           | 1           | -             | 1            |
| Accidents other than motor vehicle accidents                      | 1           | -             | 1            |
| Suicide                                                           | -           | 1             | 1            |
| Other defined and ill-defined diseases                            | 5           | 5             | 10           |
|                                                                   | <u>56</u>   | <u>86</u>     | <u>142</u>   |

### SPECIFIC CAUSES OF DEATH

#### Heart Disease

Out of the total of 142 deaths in Lewes during 1959, 46 were due to heart disease, together with an additional eleven deaths due to circulatory disease. As usual, therefore, it can be said that over one third of the total number of deaths in the area were due to heart or circulatory disease. Of the total number of deaths included in the two groups mentioned 22 were male and 35 female.

So far as heart disease and diseases of the circulatory system are concerned, it is probable that this group of illnesses will always remain the major cause of death, as many of the cases of heart disease which prove fatal in old age are little more than the result of the heart wearing out. This effect can be postponed, but it is unlikely to be entirely obviated.

#### Cancer

Of the 30 deaths due to cancer which were recorded in Lewes during 1959, only one was due to cancer of the lung. Of the total number of 30 deaths 11 were males and 19 females. The death due to cancer of the lung was that of a male.

#### Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System

Vascular lesions of the nervous system include cerebral haemorrhage, cerebral embolism, thrombosis and other lesions. A total of 17 deaths due to these lesions was recorded in Lewes during the year, eleven less than in 1958. Five of the deaths were of males and twelve females. In practically every year, the number of deaths of females due to this malady is considerably greater than the number of male deaths. Most of the deaths occur amongst elderly persons.

## SECTION II

### General Provision of Health Services in the Area

#### 1. Public Health Facilities of the Local Authority

During the period under review the Medical Officer of Health for the Borough of Lewes also acted as Medical Officer of Health for the Urban Districts of Newhaven and Seaford and the Rural District of Chailey. The East Sussex United Districts (Medical Officer of Health) Joint Committee, by which the Medical Officer of Health for the four districts is appointed, provides an efficient means of administering the Joint Appointment.

One public health inspector carried out duties in the Borough.

#### 2. Laboratory Facilities

The Public Health Laboratory established at the Royal Sussex County Hospital, Brighton, has proved of great assistance during the year.

The Laboratory has carried out for the Borough, free of charge, the examination of sputum, throat swabs and faeces and has also examined water and milk samples. Altogether the Laboratory carried out 42 different examinations for the Borough during the year under review. This service is of great value, both to your Medical Officer of Health and to the medical practitioners in the area. It is particularly useful in providing a certain means of discovering whether or not a person has been invaded by the infective organism causing tuberculosis and is also of great use in detecting any impurities or infective organisms in water, milk, ice-cream or foodstuffs generally.

#### 3. Ambulance Facilities

The provision of the ambulance service is the responsibility of the East Sussex County Council, which houses two ambulances and a sitting case car at the Market Tower Clinic in the town. During 1959 these vehicles were available for the conveyance of both infectious and non-infectious cases, and arrangements are in being for the disinfection of ambulances, bedding, clothing, etc., after use for the transport of an infectious case. The vehicles are staffed by members of the St. John Ambulance Brigade and are serviced, as necessary, by the drivers or by a commercial garage. If a further call is received while both the ambulances are out on duty, arrangements are in being for the call to be dealt with by other depots in the area.

#### 4. Nursing in the Home

As in previous years, the East Sussex County Council, as empowered by Section 25 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, has arranged for this service to be provided by the East Sussex County Nursing Association through the Lewes and District Nursing Association.

## 5. Clinics and Treatment Centres

| Description and Situation                                 | Day and Time of Attendance                                                                        | By whom Provided                 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Infant Welfare Centre,<br>Castlegate House,<br>LEWES.     | Every Tuesday afternoon,<br>2 - 4 p.m.                                                            | E.S.C.C.                         |
| Chest Clinic,<br>Victoria Hospital,<br>LEWES.             | By appointment. Monday and<br>Wednesday afternoon at 2.0<br>and Friday morning at 11.15           | Regional<br>Hospital<br>Board    |
| Orthopaedic Clinic,<br>Y.M.C.A.,<br>LEWES.                | Monday morning 9.30 to 12.30<br>and Wednesday and Friday<br>afternoon 2 - 4. By appoint-<br>ment. | Mid-Sussex<br>Hospital<br>Board  |
| Artificial Pneumothorax,<br>Victoria Hospital,<br>LEWES.  | Friday mornings 11.0 onwards.<br>Women first.                                                     | Regional<br>Hospital<br>Board    |
| Minor Ailment Clinic,<br>Castlegate House,<br>LEWES.      | Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to<br>10 a.m.                                                            | County<br>Education<br>Committee |
| Dental Clinic,<br>Castlegate House,<br>LEWES.             | Every day by appointment.                                                                         | County<br>Education<br>Committee |
| Nervous Disorders Clinic,<br>Victoria Hospital,<br>LEWES. | Every Tuesday from 2.30 p.m.<br>onwards.                                                          | Regional<br>Hospital<br>Board    |

## 6. Hospitals

Under the provisions of the National Health Service Act, 1946, the Ministry of Health is responsible for the provision of hospital accommodation which, in this area, was materially the same as in previous years.

## 7. Provision for the Care of Mental Defectives

The East Sussex County Council deals with the Lunacy and Mental Deficiency service in respect of patients outside institutions. All institutional care is the responsibility of the Regional Hospital Board.

### SECTION III

#### Sanitary Circumstances and Sanitary Inspection of the Area

##### Water Supply

Apart from a few private wells which are used for trade purposes, the water supply is derived entirely from the Brighton Corporation Waterworks which are situated at the south-west end of the borough.

The water is pumped from the well into four covered distributing reservoirs, namely Jubilee Park, Race Hill (2), and Western Road.

The supply is constant, of good quality, and is sufficient for the needs of the community.

The Brighton Water Department have taken samples from the Lewes Well, weekly for abbreviated chemical and bacteriological examination, and monthly for complete chemical and minerology examination.

No form of contamination of the supply has occurred during the year, and as the water is not liable to have plumbo-solvent action, it has not been necessary to take any precautions against this.

All dwelling houses in the borough have a direct piped supply from the public water main, with the exception of 22 houses on the Cuilfail Estate which receive their piped supply via two private reservoirs which are supplied from the public water main.

##### Drainage and Sewerage

Water carriage system; 37 houses only being connected to cesspools or septic tank systems.

The sewerage system provides for the converging of all sewers into the Sewage Disposal Works at Southeram, where the effluent, after the passing of the sewage through a detritus chamber, screens, and sedimentation tanks, is stored in reservoirs until it is discharged into the River Ouse at suitable states of the tide.

##### Refuse Collection and Disposal

The collection of house refuse is carried out once weekly over the whole district, and trade refuse oftener where requested. Disposal is effected by controlled tipping on low-lying ground at Landport.

Salvage collected during the year amounted to:-

|           |                                  |                    |
|-----------|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Metals:   | 14 tons, 14 cwts, 1 qr.          | Value £273. 13. 1. |
| Textiles: | 10 tons, 11 cwts, 2 qrs, 23 lbs. | " £158. 6. 4.      |
| Paper:    | 116 tons, 1 cwt, 2 qrs.          | " £605. 15. 0.     |

##### Sanitary Inspection

###### (a) Visits and Inspections

|                                       |     |
|---------------------------------------|-----|
| Houses and Premises inspected .....   | 282 |
| Complaints attended to .....          | 59  |
| Visits to Milkshops and Dairies ..... | 24  |
| Visits to Ice-cream premises .....    | 7   |
| Visits to Bakehouses .....            | 4   |
| Visits to Food Shops .....            | 83  |
| Visits to Cafes and Restaurants ..... | 28  |
| Visits to Knacker's Yards .....       | 6   |
| Visits made re Drainage .....         | 88  |
| Visits to Cinemas .....               | 4   |
| Visits to Swimming Baths .....        | 12  |
| Visits to Pet Shops .....             | 3   |
| Visits re Sickness .....              | 9   |
| Rooms disinfected .....               | 1   |
| Inspections of verminous houses ..... | 7   |

|                                       |     |
|---------------------------------------|-----|
| Visits under the Petroleum Act .....  | 17  |
| Visits under the Rent Act .....       | 40  |
| Visits under the Factories Act .....  | 88  |
| Visits under the Shops Act .....      | 51  |
| Visits under the Clean Air Act .....  | 4   |
| Samples of Milk taken .....           | 36  |
| Visits made for sundry purposes ..... | 268 |
| Visits made for re-inspections .....  | 150 |

(b) Nuisances abated and repair work effected:-

|                                        |    |
|----------------------------------------|----|
| Dampness remedied .....                | 34 |
| Choked drains cleared .....            | 15 |
| Drains repaired .....                  | 7  |
| Chimney stacks .....                   | 11 |
| Roofs .....                            | 18 |
| Rainwater gutters and downspouts ..... | 5  |
| External Walls .....                   | 20 |
| Window frames .....                    | 13 |
| Doors and frames .....                 | 6  |
| Ceilings .....                         | 4  |
| Plasterwork .....                      | 14 |
| Floors .....                           | 20 |
| W.C. pans and cisterns .....           | 10 |
| Sinks .....                            | 8  |
| Firebacks .....                        | 9  |
| Ranges .....                           | 1  |
| Verminous premises disinfested .....   | 7  |
| Wasp disinfestations .....             | 56 |

Housing

(a) Slum Clearance

(i) The Minister's confirmation was received in respect of the following Orders:-

Lancaster Street Compulsory Purchase Order 1958  
St. Pancras Road Compulsory Purchase Order 1958  
York Street Compulsory Purchase Order 1958  
Wellington Street Compulsory Purchase Order 1958

The total number of houses involved in the Orders was 48.

(ii) Closing Orders were made in respect of 10 unfit houses.

(b) Improvement Grants

Grants were made in respect of 23 houses which were improved during the year.

(c) Certificates of Disrepair

3 applications for Certificates of Disrepair were received, one of which was later withdrawn. An Undertaking to carry out the listed repairs was received in respect of one property, and a Certificate of Disrepair was issued to the tenant in respect of the other.

Inspection and Supervision of Food

(a) Milk Supply

The whole of the milk retailed within the borough is of a designated supply, being either "Tuberculin Tested", "Pasteurised" or "Sterilised". The number of retail purveyors is 15, and there is one registered cowkeeper. Licences to retail designated milks were:-

|                   |   |    |
|-------------------|---|----|
| Tuberculin Tested | - | 11 |
| Pasteurised       | - | 14 |
| Sterilised        | - | 5  |

Inspections of the dealers' premises showed that they were kept in a clean and satisfactory condition.

Results of samples submitted to the Public Health Laboratory Service, Brighton, were:-

#### Bacteriological Examination

Twenty-nine samples submitted, all of which were found to be satisfactory.

#### Biological Examination

Seven samples submitted. M. tuberculosis was found in one sample; the local authority in whose district the milk was produced was notified, and also the Divisional Veterinary Officer, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food was notified.

The remaining six samples were found to be satisfactory.

#### (b) Ice-cream

There are forty-seven premises registered for the sale of ice-cream, and none for manufacture.

#### (c) Meat

There are no licensed slaughterhouses within the borough; the greater part of the home-killed meat retailed is slaughtered at Brighton Abattoir.

#### (d) Food Premises

The categories of food premises according to trade in the borough are:-

|                       |   |    |
|-----------------------|---|----|
| Baker's Shops         | - | 9  |
| Butcher's Shops       | - | 12 |
| Cooked Meat Shops     | - | 1  |
| Confectioner's Shops  | - | 25 |
| Fishmonger's Shops    | - | 4  |
| Fried Fish Shops      | - | 5  |
| Greengrocer's Shops   | - | 17 |
| Grocer's Shops        | - | 36 |
| Bakeries              | - | 3  |
| Dairies               | - | 9  |
| Restaurants and Cafes | - | 21 |
| Canteens              | - | 7  |
| Hotels                | - | 3  |
| Public Houses         | - | 28 |

Premises registered under Section 16, Food & Drugs Act, 1955, are:-

|                         |   |    |
|-------------------------|---|----|
| Sale of ice-cream       | - | 47 |
| Manufacture of Sausages | - | 13 |
| Fish frying             | - | 5  |

Inspections of these premises show that they are kept in a clean and satisfactory condition.

#### (e) Unsound Food

The following summary shows food which was found on examination to be unfit for human consumption, and was voluntarily surrendered by the owners for destruction:-

|                      |   |          |
|----------------------|---|----------|
| Cod                  | - | 21 lbs.  |
| Shrimps              | - | 1 gallon |
| Canned Corned Beef   | - | 63 lbs.  |
| " Pig Kidneys        | - | 28 lbs.  |
| " Pork Luncheon Meat | - | 12½ lbs. |
| " Calves Tongues     | - | 12 lbs.  |
| " Cooked Ham         | - | 9¼ lbs.  |
| " Jellied Veal       | - | 6 lbs.   |
| " Chopped Pork       | - | 4 lbs.   |
| " Chopped Ham        | - | 4 lbs.   |
| " Fruit              | - | 25 tins  |
| " Milk               | - | 15 tins  |
| " Fish               | - | 7 tins   |
| " Meat               | - | 9 tins   |
| " Vegetables         | - | 3 tins   |
| " Assorted Foods     | - | 8 tins   |

Disposal of the unsound food was:-

|                    |                             |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| Meat               | - to Fat and Bone Merchants |
| Fish               | - to Pig Keepers for swill  |
| Canned goods, etc. | - burial at the Refuse Tip  |

#### Rodent Control

As well as dealing with individual complaints of rat or mice infested premises, regular inspections and surveys were made of premises and land which had previous records of infestations.

The Council's refuse tip was kept under close supervision, and treatments were carried out as and when found necessary.

No treatment of the sewer system was found necessary, in view of the absence of any infestations which could be attributed to it.

The number of visits made to premises under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, was 1,021, and the number of infestations found and cleared was 121.

#### Swimming Baths

The Council's open-air bath at the Pells was considerably improved prior to its opening for the bathing season, and the installation of a continuous circulation and chlorination plant resulted in the water being maintained in a very satisfactory bacteriological condition.

#### Petroleum Act

Forty-one licences were issued for the storage of Petroleum Spirit. The total quantity that might be kept under licence was 42,980 gallons.

#### Factories Act

There are 60 factories in the borough in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 of the Act are to be enforced by the Council, that is, factories in which no mechanical power is used. During the year 29 inspections were carried out in this class of factory; in no case were defects found.

Under section 7 of the Act, there are 82 factories on the register. 45 inspections were carried out at these premises, and no action for the remedying of defects was necessary.

14 visits were also made to other premises to which the Act applied.

3 persons are employed as outworkers, making or altering wearing apparel; no instances of work in unwholesome premises were found.

## SECTION IV

### Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious and Other Diseases

#### Infectious Diseases

Six hundred and sixty-seven cases of infectious disease were notified in Lewes in 1959. The details are as follows:-

| <u>Disease</u>    | <u>Total number of<br/>Cases Notified</u> | <u>Cases Admitted<br/>to Hospital</u> | <u>Total Number<br/>of Deaths</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Measles           | 649                                       | 5                                     | -                                 |
| Pneumonia         | 7                                         | 1                                     | -                                 |
| Whooping Cough    | 4                                         | -                                     | -                                 |
| Scarlet Fever     | 3                                         | -                                     | -                                 |
| Puerperal Pyrexia | 2                                         | -                                     | -                                 |
| Dysentery         | 1                                         | -                                     | -                                 |
| Food Poisoning    | 1                                         | 1                                     | -                                 |
|                   | 667                                       | 7                                     | -                                 |

#### Measles

Six hundred and forty-nine cases of measles were notified in the Borough during 1959. Three hundred and fifteen cases were males and three hundred and thirty-four females. Five of the cases were admitted to hospital. All cases made satisfactory recoveries. The number of cases of measles notified each year fluctuates considerably, years of heavy incidence usually alternating with years when few cases occur. The present year of high incidence follows three consecutive years when small numbers of cases have been reported. As mentioned in last year's report, past experience has shown that such a run of years of low incidence is usually followed by a year when more cases occur than are customarily notified even in years of heavy incidence.

#### Pneumonia

Seven cases of pneumonia were notified in Lewes during 1959. One of these cases, that of a sixty-seven year old man, was admitted to hospital, but all cases made satisfactory recoveries.

#### Whooping Cough

Only four cases of whooping cough were notified in Lewes during 1959. None of the cases were sufficiently severe to warrant admission to hospital.

One of the notified cases was a boy and three were girls. None of the cases recorded was more than three years old. One case was only six months old.

#### Scarlet Fever

Three children, one a boy aged seven years, and two girls aged five and seven years, contracted scarlet fever during 1959. All three made uneventful recoveries without admission to hospital.

#### Puerperal Pyrexia

Two cases of puerperal pyrexia were notified in Lewes during the year under review. One of these cases was of a seventeen year old woman, whose feverish condition was caused by a breast abscess. The other case was of a thirty-one year old woman. Both cases made satisfactory recoveries.

#### Dysentery

One case of dysentery occurred in Lewes during 1959. The patient was a nine months old girl who made an uneventful recovery without admission to hospital.

### Food Poisoning

Only one case of food poisoning was recorded in Lewes during 1959. This was of a sixteen year old boy who was discharged completely fit after five weeks in hospital. The length of time spent in hospital was not due to the severity of his symptoms, but to the need to ensure that he was completely free from infection before his discharge.

### General

Apart from the large number of cases of measles recorded during the year, only eighteen cases of infectious disease were notified. Only seven cases of infectious disease were admitted to hospital during the year and all cases made complete recoveries.

# SECTION V

## TUBERCULOSIS

In 1959 nineteen cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified. No case of non-pulmonary tuberculosis was recorded. No death occurred due to pulmonary or non-pulmonary tuberculosis.

Ten of the pulmonary tuberculosis cases notified were inward transfers from other districts, one of them being a re-entry into the district. Five of the transfers into the area left the district before the end of the year.

| AGE PERIODS  | 1959 - NEW CASES AND MORTALITY |                   |               |   |           |   |               |   |
|--------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|---------------|---|-----------|---|---------------|---|
|              | New cases                      |                   |               |   | Deaths    |   |               |   |
|              | Pulmonary                      |                   | Non-Pulmonary |   | Pulmonary |   | Non-Pulmonary |   |
|              | M                              | F                 | M             | F | M         | F | M             | F |
| 0            | -                              | -                 | -             | - | -         | - | -             | - |
| 5            | -                              | -                 | -             | - | -         | - | -             | - |
| 10           | -                              | -                 | -             | - | -         | - | -             | - |
| 15           | -                              | 1(T.I.O)          | -             | - | -         | - | -             | - |
| 20           | 2(1T.I.O)                      | 1(T.I.)           | -             | - | -         | - | -             | - |
| 25           | -                              | 3(1T.I.O<br>1T.I) | -             | - | -         | - | -             | - |
| 30           | 2(1T.I.O)                      | -                 | -             | - | -         | - | -             | - |
| 35           | -                              | 1(T.I.)           | -             | - | -         | - | -             | - |
| 40           | -                              | 1(T.I.O)          | -             | - | -         | - | -             | - |
| 45           | -                              | -                 | -             | - | -         | - | -             | - |
| 50 & upwards | 6(1R.E.)                       | 2(1T.I)           | -             | - | -         | - | -             | - |
| TOTALS       | 10                             | 9                 | -             | - | -         | - | -             | - |

T.I. = Transfer Inward      T.I.O. = Transfer In & Out      R.E. = Re-entry

The incidence of the 19 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis notified in 1959 is 1.39 per 1,000 population. If the nine inward transfers and one re-entry are excluded, a total of nine new cases remains, giving an incidence rate of 0.66 per 1,000 population.

The Mass Radiography Unit operated in Lewes from the 7th to 11th September, 1959, when 652 males and 554 females were X-rayed.

Of the total number examined, three persons were found to have tuberculosis requiring hospital treatment or close clinical supervision and two cases found required only occasional supervision.



